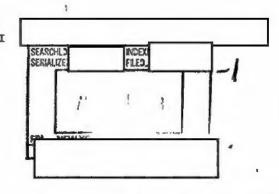
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

IN RE LETTER REQUEST FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE MATTER OF (b)(6) STRECHNISKI, et al.

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S.D.N.Y. 1998 10 AUG 1998

ORDER APPOINTING COMMISSIONER

Upon application of the United States of America, it is hereby

ORDERED, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1782, that Assistant United States Attorney Court E. Golumbic, or such other Assistant United States Attorney as may be subsequently designated by the United States Attorney, be appointed Commissioner to take such steps as are necessary, including issuance of subpoenas, without notice to any person other than the witness, to appear, to produce documents and physical evidence, and to give testimony under oath in response to examination by the Commissioner in a proceeding before the Commissioner and only such other persons as the Commissioner shall designate; and to obtain other evidence in conformity with the captioned Letter Rogatory; to submit all evidence obtained in accordance herewith through the appropriate channels to representatives of the Government of France and to do all else that may be necessary for the accomplishment of the purpose of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the testimony or other evidence received in accordance with this Order are to be retained by the United States Department of Justice for such use as the Attorney General or her designated representative may deem appropriate; and it is

Exhibit A

further

ORDERED that, in collecting the evidence requested, the Commissioner may be accompanied by persons whose presence or participation is authorized by the Commissioner, including, without limitation, other Assistant United States Attorneys, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and representatives of the Government of France; and it is further

ORDERED that the application and its exhibit, pursuant to which this Order was issued, are hereby sealed pending further order of this Court.

Dated:

New York, New York August 6, 1998

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

JAMES M. PARKISON, Clork

(b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

By

Deputy Clerk

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

IN RE LETTER ROQUEST FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE MATTER OF (D)(6) STRECHNISKI, SUZANNA STRECHNISKI, et al.

ORDER APPOINTING COMMISSIONER

MARY JO WHITE United States Attorney Attorney for the U.S.A.

COURT E. GOLUMBIC
Assistant United States Attorney
(b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

IN RE LETTER REQUEST FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE MATTER OF (b)(6). STRECHNISKY, et al.

F. D. U.S.D.C.
S.D.N.Y.
1998

1119-70

DECLARATION AND APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER

COURT E. GOLUMBIC, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, hereby declares under penalty of perjury:

- 1. I am an Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York and have principal responsibility for this matter. I submit this application for an Order pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1782 and the implementing authority of the United States Department of State, 22 C.F.R. 92.67: (a) appointing me as Commissioner for the purpose of taking the actions necessary, including issuing subpoenas to take testimony and to obtain evidence, in accordance with a letter of request issued by the Government of France, and (b) permitting me to be accompanied by persons whose presence or participation I, as Commissioner, authorize, including, without limitations, other Assistant United States Attorneys, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and representatives of the Government of France.
- 2. The office of the United States Attorney has received a Letter Rogatory (the "Request") from Ms. Mireille Filippini, Chief Examining Magistrate of the Tribunal of Grande Instance of the Court of Appeal of Paris, in relation to an investigation being carried out by the French authorities into

(b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

attached hereto as Exhibit A.

of falsifying administrative documents, money laudering and underlying arms trafficking offenses. A copy of the Request is

a criminal proceeding has commenced in France against (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) and others. The French

authorities are examining the possible laundering of the proceeds of arms trafficking in France, certain other European nations, and the United States.

4. In connection with the ongoing criminal proceeding, Examining Magistrate Filippini has asked for assistance in obtaining information regarding the following companies: Beltech Export, Sintez, and Air Finance, its officers directors, managers and shareholders. Beltech Export, Sintez, and Air Finance are United States companies that are believed to be linked to the money laundering activity mentioned in paragraph 3 above. The Examining Magistrate has further asked for assistance in obtaining information regarding a sale of an apartment located at 157 East 70th Street, New York, NY, by Mr.

to Northampton Holding, Inc. ("Northampton").

Northampton is located at 150 East 58th Street, New York, NY, which sale may be linked to the same money laundering activity. above. Finally, the Examining Magistrate has asked assistance in ascertaining whether or not

maintain bank accounts in New York and Florida, and

if so, in obtaining the bank records associated with these accounts.

- 5. In order to obtain the requested evidence, it will be necessary for a Commissioner to be appointed to issue process, administer oaths, cause testimony to be recorded, and subpoena documents or other evidence pursuant to Rule 17(c), Fed. R. Crim. P. The testimony and evidence secured by the Commissioner will be certified and transmitted to the requesting party through appropriate channels.
- 6. The power of a United States District Court to appoint a Commissioner in response to a letter rogatory or other request made by the court of a foreign government is conferred by statute, 28 U.S.C. § 1782, and regulation, 22 C.F.R. § 92.67. Section 1782 provides, in part, that the District Court may order the giving of testimony or the production of documents:

pursuant to a letter rogatory issued, or request made, by a foreign or international tribunal or upon the application of any interested person and may direct that the testimony or statement be given, or the document or other thing be produced, before a person appointed by the court.

28 U.S.C. § 1782(a).

7. This Section is applicable to both criminal and civil proceedings. In Re Request for Judicial Assistance from the Seoul District Criminal Court, Seoul, Korea, 555 F.2d 720 (9th Cir. 1977); In Re Letter Rogatory from the Justice Court,

District of Montreal, Canada, 523 F.2d 562, 565-66 (6th Cir. 1975). Applications to this Court predicated on letters rogatory are appropriately made ex parte. In Re Letters Rogatory from the Tokyo District, Tokyo, Japan, 539 F.2d 1216, 1219 (9th Cir. 1976). Requests for international assistance may come from a foreign court, prosecutor or other "interested person." In re Letter of Request from Crown Prosecution Service of the United Kingdom, 870 F.2d 686 (D.C.Cir. 1989); In re Request for Assistance from Ministry of Legal Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago, 848 F.2d 1151 (11th Cir. 1988), cert. denied, 488 U.S. 1005 (1989). Such assistance may be granted if an adjudicative proceeding is pending or, in the absence of a pending proceeding, when "such a proceeding is imminent, i.e., very likely to occur within a brief interval from the request. " In re Judicial Assistance (Letter Rogatory) for the Federative Republic of Brazil, 936 F.2d 702, 703 (2d Cir. 1991).

- 8. The Request in this case shows that the evidence sought is for use in an ongoing criminal proceeding. It is customary that requests for international legal assistance in criminal matters be executed by the requested state without notification to the target of a foreign criminal investigation or a foreign criminal defendant, unless a contrary intention is apparent from the nature or content of the request.
- 9. Based on the above, it is respectfully requested that the Court issue an Order appointing me as Commissioner to take the actions necessary, including the issuance of

Commissioner's subpoenas, to obtain the evidence requested, and to adopt such procedures in receipt of the evidence as are consistent with the intended use thereof in France. Further, because the request relates to a criminal investigation in France, the United States respectfully requests that the Commissioner be authorized to subpoena documents and witnesses without providing such notice as might otherwise be required by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or otherwise to the subjects, targets or defendants, as the case may be, of the investigation.

10. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate, and that no prior applications for similar relief have been made.

Dated: New York, New York August 6, 1998

Court E. Golumbic
Assistant United States Attorney
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

Liberty-Equality-Fraternity

COURT OF APPEAL OF PARIS

TRIBUNAL OF GRANDE INSTANCE OF PARIS

CHAMBERS OF MS Mireille FILIPPINI

Chief Examining Magistrate

Gen Ref: P963266903/4

Chambers Ref: 6/97

INTERNATIONAL LETTERS ROGATORY

We the undersigned, Mireille FILIPPINI

Chief Examining Magistrate at the Tribunal de Grande Instance of Paris

Given the criminal proceedings which have been instituted against the following:



on the counts of falsifying and using falsified administrative documents, laundering the proceeds of felonies or crimes

Pursuant to Articles 81, 151 and following of the Code of Criminal Procedure

Do hereby request the competent Authorities of THE UNITED STATES OF

AMERICA to proceed with the operations hereinafter set forth and and to return these Letters Rogatory as soon as possible, accompanied by such documents as may be necessary to establish that said operations have been effectively carried out.

THE FACTS OF THE CASE

On November 4th 1997, the Department of Data Processing and Action against Unlawful Financial Circuits (TRACFIN) informed the Paris Public Prosecutor that Eastern European Nationals, in this case a couple named using different nationalities and civil statuses, had opened various bank accounts with Paris branches, and that considerable movements had been recorded on these accounts. (D1 to D4).

In its report TRACFIN stated that (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) claimed to be an industrialist in the oil business and Vice-Chairman of the company "TRANSNET ASSETS CORPORATION" situated in GENEVA. It has however emerged that the said company is not registered in the Swiss Company and Trade Register and that the address is most likely a mere letter box. Mr (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) is moreover not listed as being a recognised Director of a company in Switzerland. The report also stated that a certain born 02.10.1969, and who might be a relative of

Switzerland. TRACFIN also states that (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) was suspected by the Ukranian authorities in 1994 of arms trafficking via the Panamanian company GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES Intl Inc.

:Investigations into the couple's bank accounts revealed that the (b)(6 (b)(7)(C)) had opened three successive accounts: the first with BICS, the second with CREDIT AGRICOLE and the third with B.N.P. Each of these accounts provisioned the following one until its closure.

The various bank accounts were opened in the name of holders giving the following nationalities and civil statuses:

- BICS: opened in September 1991 in the name of both 21.03.1971 in the USSR

This account was closed on 21/07/1994

- CREDIT AGRICOLE: opened in March 1994 in the names of both (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) in KIEV, on presentation of a Greek passport, or (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) in KIEV, on presentation of an Israeil passport, and of (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) maiden name (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) a Greek passport, and of (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) maiden name (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) a Greek passport, and of (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) a Greek passport,

which appears on the bank signature card, or (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) (c) (c)(6) (d)(6) (d)(7)(C) (d)(7)(C)

This account was closed at the bank's initiative in December 1994, after an audit of said account and the clients' refusal to justify the nature of the transactions recorded on the account.

B.N.P: opened after the closing by CREDIT AGRICOLE of the account in its books, in the names of (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) born 14.09.1962 in KIEV, on presentation of a Greek passport, and (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) on prestation on a Greek passport.

An examination of the transactions recorded on these accounts revealed that the three accounts were provisioned to a total of 1,699,786.62 frs in cash or by bank transfers coming directly from the ZURICH (or GENEVA) branch of the J. HENRY SCHROEDER BANK, without any identification of the party ordering the transfer.

An examination of the last account with BNP reveals firstly the return of part of the money to Switzerland, via the bank MONEGASQUE DE GESTION, in favour of a certain

and Chairman and Managing Director of several companies in Switzerland, several of which are financial holding companies, and secondly the drawing of a cheque for 175,000 francs in favour of a certain KIEKEBUSCH, endorsed with the BANQUE COMMERCIALE ITALIENNE in NICE, this transaction being followed by the withdrawal of the money in cash on 12/7/1995 and the closing of the account.

Paris 8ème at a price of 16,665,000 French francs, including 200,000 frs for the purchase of the furniture and furnishings therein.

An examination of the mortgage documents reveals that the apartment had been purchased with the help of a loan of 13,000,000 French francs made by the J. HENRY SCHROEDER BANK in ZURICH, and paid directly into the account of the SCP DURANT-JACQUES et PONSOT, Notaries in partnership in Paris on 03/05/1993, completed by a personal contribution by the purchaser of 3,665,000 French francs.

The mortgage agreement shows that the said (b)(6) (b) (7) (C)
had presented a different civil status, this time being (b)(6) (b)(7) (C)

NIEV and holding Paraguayan nationality, and that the said (b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

presented a Russian passport showing her



maiden name as as was the case on the documents given to the BICS (D30 and D31). Investigations revealed that the identity of this person was false.

Police investigations also showed that the couple were frequent travellers, in particular to the USA (MIAMI), AUSTRIA (VIENNA), HOLLAND (AMSTERDAM), ENGLAND (LONDON), ISRAEL (TEL AVIV), FINLAND (REYKJAVIK) AND KAZAHSTAN (ALMA ATA).

A search carried out at the (b)(6) (D)(7)(C) place of residence led to the discovery, in a strong box, of a British passport in the name of (D)(6) (D)(7)(C) in LONDON, and holding British nationality. Subsequent investigations revealed this passport to have been falsified, having been declared to the British Authorities as having been stolen in LONDON, the true holder thereof being (D)(6) (D)(7)(C) (D)(

The box also contained a batch of catalogues and presentation brochures for combat helicopters, with a letter of introduction from the



manufacturers to Mr (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) a catalogue of handguns, of bullet proof waistcoats and police equipment, Military and Security Department, bearing a heading in English, "reserved for the Authorities".

A message from INTERPOL KIEV dated 30/04/1994 stated that on 08/03/1994 a vessel called "JADRAN EXPRESS" flying a Panamanian flag and coming from RIEKA, CROATIA, had been intercepted and boarded in the Adriatic Sea and escorted to the port of TARANTO. A substantial cargo of firearms was found on board. This cargo had supposedly been purchased in BELARUS and was to be transported by the Panamanian company GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL via a Ukranian port to the Armed Forces of NIGERIA. The Nigerian Authorities have proved that the certificate presented by the Panamanian company as having been issued in the name of the Nigerian Government was a fake. According to INTERPOL KIEV the organiser of this arms trafficking is the Chairman of the company GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL, i.e. (016) (10.17)(C) (10.17)(C)

It was also indicated that the addresses of the corporate offices of GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL INC were:

- 53 Rd St Urbanizacion Obarrio Torre Swiss Bank, 16th floor,

- 1010 VIENNA - Salztorgasse 1/9 AUSTRIA

and that the Registered Office of the company was situated in VIENNA, and that its associate was a certain (D86-D87)

INTERPOL BERNE and GENEVA, in a note addressed to the French police, reiterate in part the note sent by INTERPOL KIEV. The note also states that big (b)(f)(C) ran a company called TCL TRADE CONCEPT LTD, situated in VIENNA, together with the company TRANSET ASSETS CORP.; that big stayed on several occasions at a hotel in ZURICH with his brother, big (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) and Vice-Chairman of the COALCOINTERNATIONAL LTD, situated in MOSCOW, a company with a subsidiary in ZOUG (Switzerland).

This note also reveals that the company SINTEZ (a company belonging to (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) was involved in the investigation concerning (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) a Russian National remanded in custody in GENEVA since 15/19/1996.

Various telephone numbers found in the diaries of the forenamed corresponded to portable phones belonging to a company in GENEVA called COMATRAS S.A.. This company had around a dozen numbers in its name, in answer to a request to this effect made by a certain



in LONDON; The telephones involved had been distributed to Russians whose names are unknown. (D91-D92)

It is stated that (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) possesses two motor vehicles registered in GENEVA under the name of (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) born a Greek National, c/o BORELLA et Cie, 3 boulevard Georges Favon in GENEVA. The registration numbers involved are the following:

- temporary numberplate GE 2077, validity March 1998, a grey 4.6

 RANGE ROVER, formerly registered as GE 1394 (extension obtained by a certain (b)(6) (b)(7)(C)
- temporary numberplate GE 6332 validity May 1997, a green JEEP CHEROKEE 5.2, formerly registered as GE 3390.

A note from INTERPOL VIENNA reiterates the elements contained in the notes from INTERPOL KIEV, and INTERPOL BERNE. It is however stated that as regards the company TCL TRADE CONCEPT LTD, situate in VIENNA, the co-contracting party of (0.6) (0)(7) C, born HATZIDAKIS, a Greek National, was indicated as being wanted in 1987, under an international arrest warrant issued by GREECE, and that some time later he had been arrested in ROMANIA; that in 1986 he had been arrested in MUNICH on suspicion of



infringing the law on control of military weapons, after having tried to sell 33 000 howitzer tanks and other military equipment (D 109/100).

Investigations carried out with the help of various telematic data banks have revealed that the company SINTEZ U.K LTD was situate 8th Floor, Old Park Lane, LONDON, that its capital amounted to £250,000, that it was incorporated in 1992, had 8 salaried employees, and traded as a company offering consultation and study services. The Directors of the company are:

(b) 6) (b) (7) (C)

and MUSTERASSET LTD. 80% of the shares of the company are owned by SINTEZ CORPORATION situate in MOSCOW and 20% by BALIC.

This information should be added to that obtained from INTERPOL BERNE and INTERPOL GENEVA (D91-D92).

INTERPOL LONDON has supplied French Police Officers with the following information:

- the company SINTEZ U.K LTD, 8th Floor, Old Park Lane, LONDON, and the said (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) have already been involved in investigations carried out by INTERPOL LONDON

- previous investigations into the SINTEZ company carried out by INTERPOL LONDON revealed that this company would not voluntarily help the police with their enquiries, and that International Letters Rogatory were thus necessary (D80).

The French Police Officers who made inquiries to the English liasion officer Mr Mickael PETERS, on secondment to the French Ministry of the Interior, were told by the latter that (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) is suspected by the British Police of arms traficking. (D154).

A visiting card (D241) describes Mr (D16) (D16) (D17) C as being Vice President of a company known as BELTECH_EXPORT, situate in NEW YORK.

Information obtained from the US Embassy in PARIS, in particular from (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) , Senior Special Agent at the Department of the Treasury, United States Customs Service Office of Investigation, shows that the companies SINTEZ and BELTECH EXPORT are known to the



American Authorities, and that, according to information in the possession of the said American Authorities in Paris, BELTECH EXPORT, a company incorporated in BELARUS, deals in military weapons.

When caestioned, Mr (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) stated that he was the Financial Manager of a company known as AIR FINANCE, situate in PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, having as its Chairman a certain (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) and that he was also the Manager of AIR FINANCE KAZAKHSTAN, a subsidiary of the Florida company (D 246).

Mr (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) owned an apartment situated 157 East 70th Street NEW YORK, and apparently sold this apartment for \$ US 3 140 000 in May 1994 to a company known as NORTHAMPTON HOLDING INC., situate 19th Floor, 150 East 58th Street, NEW YORK (D 243/9)

MISSION

We hereby request your assistance in the following manner:

- Please supply us with all information in the possession of the American Authorities regarding the companies BELTECH EXPORT, SINTEZ and AIR FINANCE, and the Directors, Managers and

shareholders of said companies, and in particular as regards Mr

(ხ)(6) ხ 7 C

Chairman of AIR FINANCE

- Please check whether the sale of the apartment owned by Mr

(b)(6) (b)(7)(C) in NEW YORK actually took place and was not merely a sham transaction

- Please check whether Mr (b)(6) (b)(7)(C) and have bank accounts in the UNITED STATES, in particular in NEW YORK and FLORIDA, and, if such is indeed the case, please cause to be handed over to you all banking documents (pertaining to the opening of accounts, bank statements, credit and debit transactions etc).

We wish to express our sincerest thanks to the High Authority for its valuable assistance in this matter and avail ourselves of this opportunity to express the assurance of our highest consideration.

Paris January 12th 1998

Signed : Mireille Filippini

Chief Examining Magistrate

Seal of the Tribunal de Grande Instance of Paris



RELEVANT ARTICLES OF THE FRENCH PENAL CODE

General ref: P96266903/4

Chambers ref:

FALSIFYING AND USING FALSIFIED: ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS

ARTICLE 441-2

Whosoever shall falsify a document issued by the public administration for the purpose of ascertaining a right, identity, capacity or the granting of an authorisation shall be liable upon conviction to a

sentence of 5 years' imprisonment and a fine of 500,000 French francs.

Whosever shall make use of any falsified document as defined hereinabove shall be liable to the same penalties as set forth in the

preceding paragraph.

The sentence set forth hereinabove shall be increased to a term of 7 years' imprisonment and a fine of 700 000 French francs when the falsifying or use of falsified documents is committed:

1°) either by a person vested with public authority or entrusted with

a mission of public service when acting in the scope of said authority or

course of said mission

2°) or in habitual fashion

3°) on for the purpose of facilitating the commission of a criminal

offence or obtaining impunity for the offender

14

LAUNDERING OF MONIES CONSTITUTING THE PROCEEDS OF FELONIES OR CRIMES

ARTICLE 324-1

Money laundering is committed by all and any means intended to facilitate the untrue justification of the origin of goods, property or income of any person committing a felony or crime which has procured for said offender any direct or indirect financial gain.

Assisting in any transactions relating to the investment, concealment or conversion of any direct or indirect proceeds resulting from the commission of any felony or crime shall also constitue the offence of money laundering.

Money laundering renders the offender liable upon conviction to a term of five years' imprisonment and a fine of 2,500,000 French francs.

ARTICLE 324-2

Money laundering shall render the offender upon conviction to a term of ten years' imprisonment and a fine of 5,000,000 French francs in the following cases:

1°) when said offence is committed in a habitual manner or by using facilities procured by the practice of any profession, trade, activity or calling,

2°) when it is committed by organised groups.

ARTICLE 324-3

The fines referred to in Articles 324-1 and 324-2 hereinabove may be increased to one half of the value of goods, property or monies involved in money laundering.

ENCLOSURES

D1 to D4 Report from TRACFIN

D 80 Investigations INTERPOL LONDON

D86-87 Message INTERPOL KIEV

D91-92 Messages INTERPOL BERNE and GENEVA

D109-110 Message INTERPOL VIENNA

D220-D154 Ascertainment of fake British passport

D227 Fake British passport

D241 Various corporate visiting cards.

D243/9 Documents pertaining to the sale of the apartment owned by

Mr (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

D246 Documents pertaining to the company AIR FINANCE

I the undersigned, sworn translator to the Court of Appeal of Peris, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true translation from the French, NE VARIETUR N° .T.G.LP.1981.

16

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

IN RE LETTER ROQUEST FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE MATTER OF (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

(b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

, et al.

DECLARATION AND APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER

> MARY JO WHITE United States Attorney Attorney for the U.S.A.

COURT E. GOLUMBIC Assistant United States Attorney

(b)(6) (b)(7)(C)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence	: ROUTINE	Date:	02/02/2000
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